

 **NOTICE**

United States Department of Agriculture • Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service • Legislative and Public Affairs
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**USDA EXTENDS COMMENT PERIOD ON PROPOSED
CONTINGENCY PLAN REQUIREMENT FOR ANIMALS REGULATED
UNDER THE ANIMAL WELFARE ACT**

December 19, 2008

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is extending the comment period for our proposed rule that would amend the Animal Welfare Act regulations to add requirements for contingency planning and training of personnel by research facilities and by dealers, exhibitors, intermediate handlers and carriers. This action will allow interested persons additional time to prepare and submit comments.

Notice of this extension is published in the Dec. 19 *Federal Register*.

Consideration will be given to all comments that we receive on or before Feb. 20, 2009. You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2006-0159> to submit or view comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.
- Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Please send two copies of your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2006-0159, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS-2006-0159.

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Note to Reporters: Public notices and other APHIS information are available on the Internet. Go to the APHIS news release page at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov> and click on the "Newsroom" button. For additional information about this topic contact Jessica Milteer at (301) 734-3265 or by e-mail at jessica.d.milteer@aphis.usda.gov.